

June 20, 2018

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VIA EMAIL

Dr. Mary Thornley
President
Trident Technical College
7000 Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29406

Re: Textbook Brokers

Dear Dr. Thornley:

Our firm represents Textbook Brokers, which operates a local store serving the textbook needs of students of Trident Technical College ("TTC"). The purpose of this letter is to avoid any potential dispute between TTC and Textbook Brokers.

As you probably know, some colleges and universities have implemented eText programs under which students can purchase eTexts in conjunction with class registration. Although the vast majority of such eText programs are conducted within the bounds of fair competition laws, some schools have implemented eText programs that result in unfair competition. Johnston Community College ("JCC") implemented an eText program that Textbook Brokers determined to violate the North Carolina Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act. Textbook Brokers sued JCC to recover the financial damage Textbook Brokers suffered as a result of JCC's allegedly unlawful eText program. Textbook Brokers and JCC reached a settlement before the case went to trial. Under the settlement, JCC agreed that its eText program would include an opt-out policy meeting all Federal guidelines, and that no student would be subject to any adverse action or treatment because of the student's decision to opt out of the JCC eText program. These commitments by JCC will ensure that Textbook Brokers may compete fairly to fulfill students' textbook needs.

Please do not construe this letter as any sort of threat. That absolutely is not the intent. Our objective is to make sure TTC is fully aware of Textbook Brokers' presence in the local textbook marketplace, and that Textbook Brokers will continue to take whatever steps are necessary to preserve its right to compete fairly. With this in mind, and in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, we hereby

request that TTC produce copies of all documents that describe or set forth the terms of TTC's eText program, and a list of all eTexts and related curriculum products TTC offers its students.

Thank you very much, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ROBINSON, BRADSHAW & HINSON, P.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Steven DeGeorge". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "R" and a cursive "DeGeorge".

R. Steven DeGeorge